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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the application of:

FREDERICK, Mervyn J., RIKKEN, Johannes M.G., and VOGELS, Arthur G.J.M.

H3A
LB
8/8/00

Serial Number: To be assigned Group Art Unit: To be assigned

Filed: Concurrently herewith Examiner: To be assigned

For: A PACKAGE FOR A VAGINAL RING

Corresponding to: PCT/EP98/08128, filed December 8, 1998

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Assistant Commissioner of Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

May 31, 2000

Sir:

Prior to the calculation of the fee in the above-identified application, please make the following amendments:

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend the claims as follows:

AM
1. (amended) An aseptic package enclosing an intravaginal article, the package being made of a laminate comprising, from the interior side to the exterior side, a layer of a sealable material, a barrier layer, and a damage protective layer, wherein the package comprises [means] a reclosable strip for reclosing it after opening, said [means] reclosable strip being in the form of a strip of polymeric material.

2. (amended) [A] The package according to claim 1, [characterised in that] wherein the sealable material is a heat-sealable polymer.

3. (amended) [A] The package according to claim 1 [or 2,